

Message Text

MRN: 1974ATHENS002670 SEGMENT NUMBER: 000001 ERROR READING TEXT INDEX
FILE; TELEGRAM TEXT FOR THIS SEGMENT IS UNAVAILABLE
ADP000
SECRET

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 NEA-14 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01 L-03 ABF-01

AEC-11 AECE-00 ACDA-19 OMB-01 SAM-01 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 DRC-01 /125 W
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O P 061710Z MAY 74
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3281
INFO SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
CNO WASHDC PRIORITY
USCINCEUR PRIORITY
CINCUSNAVEUR PRIORITY
CINCUSAFE PRIORITY
COMFAIRMED PRIORITY
COMFAIRMEDREP ATHENS PRIORITY
CHJUSMAGG ATHENS PRIORITY

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6. PM REFERRED SEVERAL TIMES DURING MY PRESENTATION TO NEED TO REMOVE OBSTACLES AND TO SEPARATE IMPORTANT ISSUES FROM LESS IMPORTANT, SAYING ON ONE OCCASION THAT "WE SHOULD NOT LOSE RIVER IN THE SEARCH FOR ITS SOURCES." WE AGREED THAT NO AGREEMENT WAS OF ANY VALUE UNLESS IT MET NEEDS OF BOTH PARTIES. HE BELIEVED THAT MOST OF DIFFICULTIES WERE MATTERS OF DETAIL AND SAID THAT HE WOULD AUTHORIZE DISCUSSION OF THESE ISSUES SO THAT WE COULD "SEE WHAT IS THE FISH AND NOT THE NET."

7. FONMIN, ON OTHER HAND, WHILE CLAIMING THAT USG HAD NO CLOSER FRIENDS THAN GREECE, SAID THAT EXISTING AGREEMENTS DID NOT WORK WELL. HE FELT THAT GREEK PUBLIC OPINION WAS QUITE SENSITIVE TO MISBEHAVIOR OF US SERVICEMEN AND THAT BILATERALS MUST THEREFORE BE CHANGED. AS AN EXAMPLE, HE ARGUED THAT DISPLAY OF US FLAG WOULD OFFEND GREEK SENSIBILITIES SINCE IT WOULD BE REMINISCENT OF LONG PERIOD OF TURKISH OCCUPATION OR PERIOD OF AXIS OCCUPATION

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DURING WW II. I QUESTIONED HIS SERIOUSNESS IN DRAWING SUCH
WANALOGIES AND DOUBTED THAT GREEK PUBLIC OPINION WOULD BE
SENSITIVE TO DISPLAY OF FLAG OF COUNTRY WHICH WAS GREECE'S
PRINCIPAL ALLY.

8. I THEN SAID THAT HE AUTHORIZED FONOFF TO DISCUSS THESE ISSUES
AND SUGGESTED THAT NEGOTIATIONS PROCEED "WITH A CONSTRUCTIVE
MIND" KEEPING IN VIEW THAT FOCUS WAS ON COMMON DEFENSE. HE
VOLUNTEERED THAT HE WOULD ALWAYS BE AVAILABLE IN EVENT THAT HIS
INTERVENTION MIGHT BE HELPFUL. PM AND FONMIN URGED THAT TWO
SIDES BEGIN NEGOTIATING QUITE SOON ON SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF
AGREEMENT.

9. COMMENT: PM CLEARLY WAS MORE RECEPTIVE TO POINT OF VIEW I
ADVANCED THAN WAS FONMIN, WHOSE LIMITED OUTLOOK MAY WELL BE AN
INHIBITING FACTOR IN MAKING REAL AND RAPID PROGRESS IN NEGOTIAT-
IONS. IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT GREEK MILITARY GAIN FULL UNDER-
STANDING OF NATURE OF OUR CONCERNS, I SHALL TAKE EARLY
OPPORTUNITY TO CALL ON GEN. BONANOS, CINCHELFOR, TO DISCUSS SOUDA
AB NEGOTIATIONS AND OTHER RELATED CONCERNS.

10. I WOULD APPRECIATE EARLIEST POSSIBLE RECEIPT OF DEPARTMENT'S
COMMENTS AND ANY FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS SO AS TO FACILITATE
RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATIONS AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE.
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